



Peer Support Worker

Dear Applicant,

We are excited to announce an excellent opportunity to join the team at The Winchester Beacon as a **Peer Support Worker**. At The Winchester Beacon (TWB), we are committed to providing support, shelter, and hope to those experiencing homelessness, and we are looking for a compassionate and proactive individual to help us further our mission.

About The Winchester Beacon:

The Winchester Beacon is a small charity devoted to addressing homelessness in our community and the surrounding area. Our comprehensive approach includes providing immediate relief through emergency accommodation, as well as long-term support services designed to help individuals rebuild their lives. We strive to create a supportive environment where everyone can work towards achieving their full potential.

The Role:

As a Peer Support Worker, you will be engaging with the residents offering emotional support and practical guidance when needed and to encourage engagement with The Winchester Beacon Support Workers. The role involves encouraging clients to develop self-reliance and personal responsibility, fostering a sense of hope and autonomy. By building a respectful, engaging, and friendly relationship with each client, the Peer Support Worker aims to maximise the impact of the support available. The Peer Support Worker will attend both staff and residents' meetings to ensure the residents' voice is heard. Full training for this role will be provided.

Why Join Us:

Working at The Winchester Beacon is more than just a job; it is an opportunity to be part of a team that is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of those in need. We offer a supportive and inclusive work environment, ongoing professional development, and the chance to contribute to meaningful and transformative work in our community.

If you are passionate about helping others and meet the qualifications outlined below, we would love to hear from you. **To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter or a short film detailing your relevant experience and why you are interested in this role to applications@winchesterbeacon.org.uk.**

Thank you for your interest in joining The Winchester Beacon team. Together, we can create a brighter future for those we serve.

Warm regards,
Hayley Wood, Operations Manager

Our Vision, Mission & Values

Vision: To transform lives, inspire hope and end homelessness.

Mission: To help break the cycle of homelessness by enabling people to rebuild their lives.



Honest and open

We treat everyone with kindness and respect, without prejudice or discrimination.



Safe and supportive

We provide a home where residents can be comfortable and safe and can find the help and restoration of self-esteem they need.



Flexible and caring

We foster collaboration to work as a team with residents, staff, volunteers, the local community and other agencies / partner.

Job Description

Job Title:	Peer Support Worker
Location:	Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8RZ
Hours:	4 hrs per week
Salary:	£11.44 per hour
Annual leave:	The equivalent of 25 days a year plus bank holiday (or a day in lieu where required to work a bank holiday (pro rata))
Reporting to:	Operations Manager
Contract:	1 year contract with extension available (subject to funding)
Other:	Must have right to work in the UK

Deadline for applications: 24th January 2025. We will review applications on a rolling basis.

Purpose of the role

The purpose of this role is to support residents by offering emotional support and practical guidance when needed and to encourage engagement with The Winchester Beacon support workers. The role involves encouraging clients to develop self-reliance and personal responsibility, fostering a sense of hope and autonomy. By building a respectful, engaging, and friendly relationship with each client, the peer mentor aims to maximise the impact of the support available. The ultimate goal is to assist clients in making meaningful progress towards their personal aspirations, helping them feel more connected and less isolated, and ensuring they always have a reliable and willing listener to turn to.

Key responsibilities

- To establish supportive and respectful relationships with residents
- To deliver peer support while upholding professional boundaries
- To encourage people to identify their own personal development goals
- To liaise with Support Workers to ensure increased engagement for residents
- To help residents identify and overcome their fears within a relationship built on empathy and trust
- To encourage residents to reflect on boundaries, personal responsibility and communication
- To support residents to attend appointments in collaboration with the TWB Support Workers
- To engage within a trauma-informed approach and to champion a person-centred approach
- To engage in regular supervision and ensure reflective practice to reduce risk
- To provide a reflection on lived experience within TWB and to promote lived experience within all aspects of the organisation
- To uphold TWB policies and procedures; including lone working, confidentiality and safeguarding
- To facilitate a regular residents' forum at our main site and at our Move on Houses

Other information

The Peer Support Worker role is intended to assist the support work delivered by the TWB Support Workers and provide residents with additional opportunities for engagement. This role is intended to enable the reflection on their own development journey, rather than act as an advisor. It is essential that the Peer Support Worker is aware of their own support needs and ensures their own wellbeing.

This role will be reviewed after one year.

Person Specification

Experience	
Essential	Desirable
Lived experience of homelessness and able to reflect on their personal experience that has followed this	Experience of being in a supportive and enabling role
Wide range of life experiences to bring an enabling and positive view of opportunities for others	
Experience of support service in personal development	
Knowledge	
Essential	Desirable
	Understanding of TWB
	Local area
	Support services available
Qualifications	
Essential	Desirable
	Driving license
Skills and attributes	
Essential	Desirable
Empathetic	Kind and sensitive
Respectful	Diplomatic
Compassionate and non-judgemental	Warm
Supportive	Helpful
Patient	Curious
Reliable	Positive